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Congress of the United States

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House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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June 6, 2003

Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S. W., Room 8-B201
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell.

The Federal Communications Commission has before it an application seeking consent to a merger between Univision Communications Inc. ("Univision") and Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation ("HBC"). In merging, these two publicly traded companies seek to expand service to the Hispanic community and bring Spanish-formatted broadcasting closer to competitive parity with the large English-language media conglomerates with which they must compete.

Many of those opposed to the merger seek to have the FCC retroactively modify its rules to designate Spanish-formatted stations as a separate "market", and thereby inhibit the growth of Spanish-formatted media. Creating a separate Hispanic market to limit the growth and competitive capabilities of broadcasters who choose to serve Hispanics is nothing more than regulatory gerrymandering to the disadvantage of Hispanics nationwide. This approach sets a dangerous precedent by creating a separate class of broadcast stations with a different set of rules based solely on program content, which in this case is cultural.


This proposed merger of a television company with a radio company is pro-competitive, and will enable Univision and HBC to better compete with the larger, established English-language media groups. Moreover, the increased competitiveness of Hispanic media as a result of the merger will attract new capital to the industry, resulting in increased management and ownership opportunities for those wishing to serve the Hispanic Community.

It is our understanding that this transaction complies with all FCC rules, requests no waivers, and seeks no special consideration. It is also our understanding that the Department of Justice has completed its review of the transaction, including an extensive review of any impact this merger might have on competition. However, despite the Commission's commitment to review and grant merger transactions within 180 days, the Univision/HBC merger application is still pending at the Commission after more than

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300 days. Given the public benefits arising from this proposed transaction, we as
Members of Hispanic and Portuguese decent, urge you to act on the pending application.

Sincerely,


Henry Borilla
Member of Congress


Patrick Toomey
Member of Congress